

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 SCI-03 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 L-02 PM-03 DODE-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 078573

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA, CH

SUBJECT: PRC NUCLEAR TESTS DURING SKYLAB MISSIONS

REQUEST YOU PASS FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO PRC EMBASSY:

1. THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION IS
PLANNING EXTENDED ORBITAL MANNED SKYLAB SPACE FLIGHTS
DURING THE PERIOD MAY 25, 1973 - JANUARY 4, 1974.
TENTATIVE PLANS CALL FOR MANNED MISSIONS MAY 15 - JUNE 12,
AUGUST 8 - OCTOBER 3, AND NOVEMBER 9 - JANUARY 4.

2. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED ABOUT
POSSIBLE HAZARDS TO THE SKYLAB ASTRONAUTS FROM THE
CONDUCT OF NUCLEAR TESTS DURING THE MISSION, PARTICULARLY
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THOSE AT HIGH ALTITUDES (ABOVE 50-60,000 FEET).
CUMULATIVE RADIATION EXPOSURE FROM AUGMENTED RADIATION
BELTS COULD NECESSITATE THE TERMINATION OF THIS MISSION,
WITH ATTENDANT LOSS OF SCIENTIFIC DATA NOT ONLY TO U. S.
EXPERIMENTERS BUT ALSO TO THE INVESTIGATORS FROM 23 OTHER
NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WHO WILL BE
COOPERATING WITH US IN THIS VENTURE ALSO, ANY
DETONATION IN THE VICINITY OF THE SPACECRAFT COULD BE
DIRECTLY DAMAGING TO THE HEALTH OF THE ASTRONAUTS
THROUGH FLASH AND RADIATION.

3. THE ALTITUDE OF THE SKYLAB MISSION IS SUFFICIENTLY
HIGH (235 NAUTICAL
MILES) TO 1974 WHA AND SUGGESTS HOST GOVERNMENT MAKE POSITIVE
CONTRIBUTION TO SITUATION IN KOREA BY VOTING FOR POSTPONE-
MENT AT 26 TH WHA. YOU SHOULD ADD USG IS PREPARED TO
CO- SPONSOR ROK DRAFT RESOLUTION SEEKING POSTPONEMENT.

3. IN CAPITALS WHERE ROK REPRESENTED, ACTION ADDRESSEES
SHOULD COORDINATE WITH SOUTH KOREAN COLLEAGUES AND WHERE AT
ALL FEASIBLE APPROACH FOR MIN AFTER SOUTH KOREANS.

4. PLEASE REPORT RESULTS, INCLUDING ANY DECISION NOT TO
MAKE APPROACH, BY PRIORITY CABLE, INFO USUN, GENEVA, AND
SEOUL.

5. FOR NEAR EAST ADDRESSEES: WHERE USEFUL, YOU MIGHT
IMPRESS UPON FOREIGN OFFICE THAT SEVERAL ARAB COUNTRIES
HAVE VOTED AFFIRMATIVELY ON POSTPONEMENT KOREAN ISSUE IN
UNGA ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS: I. E., JORDAN, QATAR, AND
SAUDI ARABIA.

6. FOR ACCRA, CARACAS AND LAGOS: GIVEN NEGATIVE HOST
GOVERNMENT REACTION TO PREVIOUS APPROACHES OF THIS
NATURE, DEPT INVITES EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT WHETHER APPROACH
COUNTER- PRODUCTIVE.

7. FOR GENEVA: YOU MAY INFORM ROKG COLLEAGUE OF US
APPROACHES IN LISTED CAPITALS AND CONSULT WITH ADDITIONAL
DELEGATIONS AS LOCALLY DESIRABLE AND CONSISTENT WITH
GUIDELINES STATE REFTEL AND STATE 065043 (BEING REPEATED
ALL ADDRESSEES).

8. POSTS IN COUNTRIES SUPPORTING REDUCTION US ASSESSMENT
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TO 25 PERCENT AT 1972 UNGA WILL SHORTLY RECEIVE
INSTRUCTIONS TO CONFIRM THESE COUNTRIES ALSO SUPPORT 25
PERCENT CEILING FOR WHO. EMBASSIES DACCA, BERN, KUWAIT
AND CONSULATE NICE WILL ALSO RECEIVE SUCH INSTRUCTIONS.

DEPT LEAVES TO POSTS' DISCRETION WHETHER APPROACHES ON
TWO ISSUES BEST COMBINED. WE INCLINED BELIEVE DEMARCHES
SHOULD BE SEPARATE. JOINT APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE ONLY
IF FAVORABLE RESPONSES ON BOTH ISSUES CAN BE EXPECTED.
ROGERS UNQUOTE ROGERS

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